

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 9, of the specification as follows:

FIGS. ~~11(b)-(e)~~ 11(b) and 13(a)-(c) depict one example of a ratchet 622 in accord with the present concepts. Ratchet 622 comprises through holes 626 corresponding to the right-most through-holes 625 of ratchet spring plate 621 to enable affixation thereto by conventional fasteners. Alternative means of connection between the ratchet spring plate 621 and ratchet could also be employed, such as but not limited to a welded or bonded connection, a unitary structure, or clamping device. Ratchet 622 includes, at a distal end, an engagement portion 627 configured to engage tabs 201 and openings 202 in the support frame. In one aspect, the engagement portion 627 has a first surface 628 inclined 30° from the horizontal and a second surface 629 inclined 70° from the horizontal. The second surface 629 is adapted to correspond to an aspect of the tabs 201 in which the tab is similarly inclined 70° from the horizontal, so as to permit positive engagement of the second surface to a respective tab as described in more detail below.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 9, of the specification as follows:

As with the first example of a strut positioning system 600, it is preferred that such track comprises a plurality of landings disposed between the first position and the second position and configured to prevent reverse translation of the slide plate in a direction toward the first position past the landing under a bias of the strut. In one aspect, the landings may comprise a tooth having at a rearwardly slanted front face and a rear face having a perpendicular attitude or a forwardly slanted face. The slide plate would correspondingly possess a ratchet tooth front face having a perpendicular or a forwardly slanted face complementing a shape of a rear face of the track landing tooth and having a forwardly slanted rear face having a shape substantially complementing a shape of the track landing tooth front face. It is preferred, in this example, that the slide plate comprises an outwardly biased ratchet tooth extending from at least one side thereof (e.g., a top and/or a bottom side). Thus, the slide plate tooth is biased into engagement with the track landing tooth to thereby permit motion of the slide plate in only one direction. A plurality of track landings may be ~~provide~~ provided substantially contiguous to one another to comprise, in combination, a linear pawl. Such linear pawl may be provided along only along a top or a bottom of the track, or may be provided along both the top and the bottom of one or more tracks. Once the slide plate is appropriately oriented in the second position, the slide plate may be fixed by a conventional mechanical fastener (e.g., screw, rivet) or may be locked in place by the action of the aforementioned ratchet tooth and linear pawl.